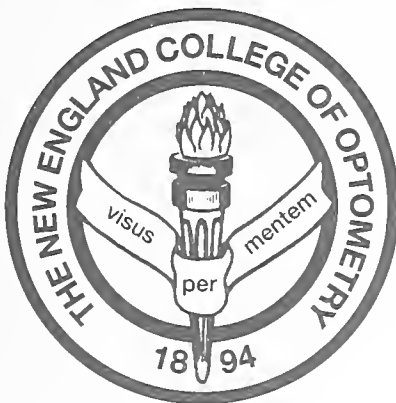


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THE NEW ENGLAND  
COLLEGE of OPTOMETRY

*Commencement Exercises*  
**2008**



**"114 Years of Excellence in Optometric Education"**

*Sunday, the First of June*  
*Two Thousand Eight*  
*John Hancock Hall*  
*Back Bay Events Center*  
*Boston, Massachusetts*

# Academic Heraldry

The caps, gowns and hoods worn at college functions have their origins in the robes worn by monks and students in the middle ages to keep out the cold and damp. Today, the academic regalia have been standardized by tradition and agreement among institutions of higher learning.

The gowns for bachelor degrees have long, pointed sleeves and are worn closed. Masters degree holders wear gowns with oblong sleeves open at the wrist. The gown may be worn open or closed. Gowns for the doctoral degree carry long velvet panels down the front and have three velvet bars on the full sleeves. The velvet may be black or of a color distinctive to the field of study for which the degree is given. Gowns are usually black, but a few institutions now prescribe colors representative of the school.

Caps, also called mortarboards, may be of cloth or, for the doctoral outfit, velvet. The tassel is black or of a color appropriate to the field of study. Doctoral tassels may be gold.

The colors on the hoods provide the institutional identity and signify the field of study. The style of the hood is specific to the degree level, with doctoral hoods being larger, with wider velvet borders, and with a panel at the back. The silk lining of the hood is in the institutional colors and the velvet borders signify the field of the degree. Commonly seen colors are:

Arts, letters, humanities:	white
Architecture:	brown
Business:	tan
Dentistry:	lilac
Education:	light blue
Law:	purple
Library science:	lemon yellow
Medicine:	green
Optometry:	seafoam green
Philosophy:	dark blue
Public Administration:	peacock blue
Public Health:	salmon pink

# Commencement Program

## Processional

*Marshall: Clifford Scott, OD '68, MPH*

## Invocation

Rabbi Thomas M. Alpert

## Welcome

Elizabeth Chen, *President*

Steven P. Manfredi, *Chairman, Board of Trustees,  
The New England College of Optometry*

Charles F. Mullen, OD '69, *Chairman, Board of Directors,  
New England Eye Institute*

Philip Sutherland, OD '86, *President, Alumni Association*

## Conferral of Honorary Degrees

David W. Ferris, OD '66, *Doctor of Ocular Science Recipient*  
*Comments*

Charles F. Mullen, OD '69, will confer

Commissioner Janet LaBreck, *Doctor of Humane Letters Recipient*  
*Keynote Address*

Elizabeth Chen, *President*, will confer

## Valedictory Addresses

Emily Kachinsky, *Class of 2008*

Grace Lytle, *Class of 2008*

## Presentation of Candidates for Master of Science in Vision Science Degrees

Steven Koevary, PhD, *Interim Vice President & Dean of Academic  
Affairs*

### *Hooding the Candidates:*

Nancy Coletta, OD, PhD, *Director of Graduate Studies*

## Presentation of Candidates for Doctor of Optometry Degrees

Steven Koevary, PhD, *Interim Vice President & Dean of Academic  
Affairs*

### *Hooding the Candidates:*

Gary Chu, OD '95, MPH, *Vice President, New England Eye Institute*

Erik Weissberg, OD '97, *Faculty Chair*

## Conferral of Degrees

Elizabeth Chen, *President*, will confer,  
assisted by Terrance B. Neylon, EdD, *Vice President and Dean of  
Students, Administration, & Alumni*

## Pledge

Ronald R. Ferrucci, OD '74, *Vice Chair, Board of Trustees*  
Leads the graduates in the Optometric Oath

## Benediction

Rabbi Thomas M. Alpert

## Recessional

Reception immediately following the ceremony

# Doctor of Optometry Degree Recipients

Diane Ah-Kiné Ng Poon Hing	Tombeau Bay, Mauritius
Annisha Ali	Queens, NY
Tahmina Arieab	Toronto, Canada
Mohammad Ashfaq *	Rockville, MD
Hetel Bhakta +	Boston, MA
Poonam Bhana +	Plano, TX
Jennifer Lyn Boggie	Raleigh, NC
Michael Denis Buckley	Nashua, NH
Lesley Lynn Bursey	Lower Island Cove, NF, Canada
Darina Celiku	Salem, MA
Scott Phillip Chamberland	Thompson Station, TN
Ding Chen°~	Wenzhou, China
Rita Anoush Cherian	Belmont, MA
Chien-Yu Chiu *	Pacific Palisades, CA
Jamie Theresa Cho	Caledonia, ON, Canada
Seung-Hee Choi	Alpine, NJ
Kristin Allison Colonna	Chicago, IL
Vanessa A. Conenna	Brooklyn, NY
Petya Todorova Damyanova	Plovdiv, Bulgaria
Sara Mae Dayon	Rumford, ME
Jason Ronald Delisle	Tolland, CT
Julie Anne DeVita	Burlington, VT
Olivia Kimberly Do	Craine, St. Philip, Barbados
Mirjana Dordevic	Countryside, IL
Manilom Julie Douangphila	Winfield, KS
Sandra T. Duckworth	Tullahoma, TN
David Earl Eaton Jr.	Sanford, ME
Jasmintha Ellaaurie	St. Paul, AB, Canada
Justin Marcus Epstein	Toronto, Canada
Helen Farjad +	Toronto, Canada
Roberta Teixeira Feraco *	Everett, MA
Elizabeth Marie Garland	Largo, FL
Robert Dodd Groves	Merrimack, NH
Noemi Guemes +	Sotopalacios, Burgos, Spain
Ryan Craig Hollingsworth	Amarillo, TX
Christopher George Holstead	Chicago, IL
Veronica Marie Hormilla	Corpus Christi, TX
Sunni Leigh Houston	Monkton, MD
Kit Tung Ip	Toronto, ON, Canada
Margaret Mary Johnson	Northbridge, MA
Emily Stefan Kachinsky	Stoughton, MA
Manpreet Kaur Kalsi +	Nairobi, Kenya

Stephen J. Kang  
Elliott Michael Keller  
Wendy Pinsing Kok  
Jacky Kin Wai Kong  
Scott M. Lake  
Eda Wing-Hing Lam  
Aaron Samuel Law  
Phiyen H. Le  
Meng San Lee  
Kalli K. Leung  
Ting Li \*  
Weidong Li \*  
Dianna Lister  
Thomas Emmet Little~  
Janette Lilieng Liu  
Kimberly Ann Lucik  
Sivhour Ly  
Bernadette Natalia Lynch  
Grace Elizabeth Lytle  
Rebecca Bennett Maida  
Michael John Majerczyk  
Alexis G. Malkin  
Ruby Mangat  
Karina Cecile Marcovitch  
Alicia C. Marvin  
Yasir Daifallah Masadeh  
Paul Raymond Mayo II  
Wasim Mohsini  
Andrea L. Murphy  
Chandani Rohit Nanavati  
Mervet Nanouh  
Nathan Huber Neville  
Gregory Maxwell New  
Anne Vu Nguyen  
Kim-Lien T. Nguyen  
Kimberly Anne Nolan  
Armand Christian Oei~  
Tyler R. Ohde  
Jad Osmanski  
Marisa Palumbo  
Joanne Pamela Parungao  
Pooja Jitendra Patel  
Tejal M. Patel  
David Andrew Paul  
Sandra M. Payton  
Robert V. Peyton  
Duy Q. Pham  
Tom-Harley Simon Poon

Los Angeles, CA  
Campobello, SC  
Richmond Hill, ON, Canada  
Vancouver, BC, Canada  
Barrie, ON, Canada  
Easton, MA  
Topeka, KS  
Boston, MA  
San Francisco, CA  
San Leandro, CA  
Streetsboro, OH  
Galveston, TX  
Seven Hills, OH  
Feura Bush, NY  
Omaha, NE  
Goodrich, MI  
Lowell, MA  
Acton, MA  
Bristol, RI  
Watertown, MA  
Bloomington, IL  
Wichita, KS  
Surrey, BC, Canada  
Toronto, Canada  
Arkport, NY  
Union City, NJ  
Beaufort, SC  
Whitby, ON, Canada  
Tarkio, MO  
Riverside, CA  
Sinking Spring, PA  
Lincolnvile, ME  
Antioch, IL  
Wesminster, CA  
San Jose, CA  
East Greenwich, RI  
North Potomac, MD  
Kansas City, MO  
Glocester, RI  
Walpole, MA  
Des Plaines, IL  
Los Angeles, CA  
Mount Prospect, IL  
Jamesville, NY  
Boston, MA  
Mansfield, MA  
Fremont, CA  
Edmonton, AB, Canada

Aparna Raghuram +  
 Candice Ann Robinson  
 Suzanne Meredith Rosenberg  
 Audra L. Rowse  
 Ranjot Singh Sandhu  
 Kathryn Woods Satterstrom  
 Guru Dutt Sharma \*  
 Suraj Parkash Sharma  
 Rina Kaur Singh  
 Kevin John Sjodahl  
 Kyla M. Smith  
 Kevin Ka Man So  
 Mona Souferian  
 Ryan Scott Stybel  
 Erin Frances Swift  
 Cindy Quyen Than  
 Rhonda E. Thompson  
 Mimi Kieu Tran  
 Linh Thuy Thi Trang  
 Jessy James Vaidhyan  
 Hessam Vaziri \*  
 Dominique Giselle Vienneau  
 Viktoriya Vilkomir  
 Nicholas Roy Walworth  
 Elizabeth Coppola Wikman  
 Stacey Vanessa Wilmot  
 Allen Wong

Boston, MA  
 Randolph, ME  
 Stoughton, MA  
 Fairhaven, MA  
 Sacramento, CA  
 Vail, CO  
 Memphis, TN  
 Edmonton, AB, Canada  
 Edmonton, AB, Canada  
 Pleasanton, CA  
 Haverhill, MA  
 Fremont, CA  
 Great Neck, NY  
 West Bloomfield, MI  
 South Williamson, KY  
 Garden Grove, CA  
 Winnipeg, MB, Canada  
 Rosemead, CA  
 Worcester, MA  
 Mississauga, Canada  
 Boston, MA  
 Gananoque, ON, Canada  
 Needham, MA  
 Temecula, CA  
 Guilford, CT  
 Newton, MA  
 Sacramento, CA

\* Accelerated Optometric Degree Program

+ Advanced Standing International Program

° MSOD China Program

~ Expected to graduate September 2008 or later





## Master of Science in Vision Science Degree Recipients

Baharak Asefzadeh  
David Bradley Bodkin  
Paul Raymond Mayo II  
Nathan Huber Neville  
Candice Ann Robinson  
Kyla M. Smith

Winchester, MA  
Mt. Pleasant, SC  
Beaufort, SC  
Lincolnton, ME  
Randolph, ME  
Haverhill, MA

## Bachelor of Science in Optometry Degree Recipient

Davin E. Chong  
Wendy Kathleen Crusberg  
Dominique Giselle Vienneau  
John Wang

Sherwood Park, AB, Canada  
Dover, NH  
Gananoque, ON, Canada  
Malden, MA

*The information in this program should not be considered as verification that a degree was received. All inquiries should be directed to the Registrar's Office.*



*Aristotle once said,  
"All who have meditated on the art of governing  
mankind have been convinced that the fate of  
empires depends on the education of youth."*

# Candidates for Residency Certification

## *Cornea and Contact Lenses*

Kelly Blake, OD  
Nathaniel DellaVedova, OD

The New England College of Optometry  
The New England College of Optometry

## *Community Health Optometry*

Keyur Patel, OD '07  
Mila Ioussifova, OD '07

Dimock Community Health Center  
Dorchester House Multi-Service Center

## *Ocular Disease*

Christina Chiang, OD  
Anupam Laul, OD

Manchester VA Medical Center  
Ophthalmic Consultants of Boston

## *Pediatric Optometry*

Justin Smith, OD '07  
Maria Varela, OD '07

The New England College of Optometry  
The New England College of Optometry

## *Primary Eye Care*

Julie Blacksmith, OD '07  
Justin Cole, OD '07  
Aaron Olstein, OD  
Amanda Verprauskus, OD

VA Vermont- White River Junction campus  
VA Vermont- White River Junction campus  
VA Connecticut - Newington campus  
VA Connecticut - Newington campus

## *Primary Eye Care - Geriatric Optometry*

Shelly Adams, OD  
Sung Yom, OD '07

Bedford VA Medical Center  
Bedford VA Medical Center

## *Primary Eye Care - Ocular Disease*

Stephanie Battista, OD, MS '07  
James Belanger, OD, MS '07  
Maureen Finley Arthurs, OD  
Kevin Grant, OD  
Juliana Grove, OD  
Beth Harper, OD  
Elaine Icban, OD  
Brian Murphy, OD '07  
Kristin Stanley, OD '07

VA Boston- Brockton campus  
VA Boston- Jamaica Plain campus  
VA Boston- Jamaica Plain campus  
VA Boston- Brockton/Worcester campuses  
VA Boston- West Roxbury campus  
VA Boston- Jamaica Plain campus  
VA Boston- West Roxbury campus  
VA Boston- Brockton campus  
VA Boston- Brockton campus

## *Primary Eye Care - Low Vision Rehabilitation*

Justin Meeks, OD  
Kristin Protosow, OD '07  
Jordan Zinn, OD

VA Connecticut - West Haven campus  
VA Connecticut - West Haven campus  
VA Connecticut - West Haven campus

## 2008 Honorary Degree Recipients

**Commissioner Janet LaBreck**

*Doctor of Humane Letters*

*Keynote Address*

Janet LaBreck is the Commissioner of the Massachusetts Commission for the Blind (MCB). She is the first legally blind individual to receive an honorary degree from the College. She was named Commissioner in 2007 after serving with the MCB for 22 years and is nationally recognized for her work on vocational rehabilitation issues. She successfully facilitated the development and implementation of a national employment network for the blind in collaboration with the Council of State Administrators of Vocational Rehabilitation. The Commission for the Blind was created in 1906 to provide "the highest quality rehabilitation and social services leading to independence and economic self-sufficiency" for blind and visually impaired individuals. Helen Keller was one of the original commissioners.

**David W. Ferris, OD '66**

*Doctor of Ocular Science*

David W. Ferris, OD, is a 1966 graduate and current Corporator of NECO. He is the founder of Dr. David Ferris & Associates in Warwick, Rhode Island, and is a third generation optometrist with over 40 years of experience in eye care. He is a former president of the American Optometric Association and the Rhode Island Optometric Association, as well as Chairman of the Rhode Island State Board of Optometry. He is credited with playing the lead role in obtaining Federal approval for optometry to be covered by Medicare. "Dr. Ferris has been a role model for generations of students and professionals and is one of the national leaders in the profession of optometry," said President Elizabeth Chen in announcing his selection. An active member of his community, Dr. Ferris is a member of the Warwick Rotary Club and the Central Rhode Island Chamber of Commerce. He has served as a City Councilman in the City of Cranston, on the Board of Directors of the Trudeau Center, and as a member of the Narragansett Bay Water Quality Commission.

## Personal Achievement Awards

<b>F. Dow Smith Award</b>	<i>Tom-Harley Simon Poon</i>
<b>Dr. Hyman R. Kamens Award</b>	<i>Alexis G. Malkin</i>
<b>National Optometric Student Association Award</b>	<i>Rhonda E. Thompson</i>
<b>Dr. Edward Joseph Troendle, Jr. Award</b>	<i>Meng San Lee</i>
<b>Alumni Association Award</b>	<i>Meng San Lee</i>

## Academic Awards

<b>Valedictory and Beta Sigma Kappa Silver Medal</b>	<i>Emily Stefan Kachinsky</i> <i>Grace Elizabeth Lytle</i>
<b>Salutatorian Award</b>	<i>Alexis G. Malkin</i>
<b>Advanced Standing International Program Scholastic Achievement Award</b>	<i>Aparna Raghuram</i>
<b>William R. Baldwin Scholastic Achievement Award</b>	<i>Ting Li</i>

## Faculty Awards

<b>Foster Namias Award</b>	<i>Erik Weissberg, OD '97</i>
<b>Carroll Martus Award</b>	<i>Mark O'Donoghue, OD '82</i>



## Clinical Awards

<b>Alcon Award</b>	<i>Justin Marcus Epstein</i>
<b>Asarkof Scholarship</b>	<i>Hessam Vaziri</i>
<b>William C. Barrett Memorial Scholarship</b>	<i>Nathan Huber Neville</i>
<b>Class of 1969 Scholarship</b>	<i>Sunni Leigh Houston</i>
<b>COVD Award for Excellence in Vision Therapy Award</b>	<i>Rebecca Bennett Maida</i>
<b>Eschenbach Award for Excellence in Low Vision</b>	<i>Marisa Palumbo</i>
<b>William Feinbloom Low Vision Award</b>	<i>Kevin Ka Man So</i>
<b>David J. Kerko Low Vision Award</b>	<i>Hessam Vaziri</i>
<b>Ned S. Witkin Leadership in Low Vision Award</b>	<i>Alexis G. Malkin</i>
<b>Marchon Eyewear Practice Management Award</b>	<i>Elliott Michael Keller</i>
<b>The New England College of Optometry Clinic Award</b>	<i>Kimberly Anne Nolan</i>
<b>RGP Lens Institute Award</b>	<i>Kalli K. Leung</i>
<b>Ira Schwartz Behavioral Vision Award</b>	<i>Aparna Raghuram</i>
<b>Vistakon Award of Excellence in Contact Lenses</b>	<i>Emily Stefan Kachinsky</i>

## Beta Sigma Kappa Honor Society

Helal Bhakta  
Poonam Bhana  
Sandra Duckworth  
David Eaton Jr.  
Jasmintha Ellaurie  
Justin Epstein \*  
Helen Farjad  
Elizabeth Garland  
Noemi Guemes  
Ryan Hollingsworth  
Veronica Hormilla  
Sunny Houston  
Kit Tung Ip  
Emily Kachinsky \*  
Manpreet Kalsi  
Jacky Kong\*  
Scott Lake\*  
Aaron Law  
Phiyen Le\*  
Ting Li  
Grace Lytle\*  
Rebecca Maida  
Michael Majerczyk  
Alexis Malkin\*  
Alicia Marvin \*  
Paul Mayo\*  
Wasim Mohsini  
Nathan Neville\*  
Kim-Lien Nguyen  
Kimberly Nolan  
Jad Osmanski  
Aparna Raghuram  
Candice Robinson\*  
Kathryn Satterstrom  
Suraj Sharma  
Kevin Sjodahl  
Kyla Smith  
Kevin So  
Ryan Stybel  
Erin Swift  
Dominique Vienneau

*\*Four-Year Participation*

# **The New England College of Optometry Board of Trustees**

## **Officers of the Board**

Steven P. Manfredi, *Chairman*  
Ronald R. Ferrucci, OD '74, *Vice Chairman*  
Joan M. Exford, OD, *Treasurer*  
Brian S. Klinger, OD, *Secretary*  
Francis L. DiMella, AIA, *Member at Large*  
Norman C. Spector, JD, *Member at Large*  
Elizabeth Chen, *President, NECO*

## **Members of the Board**

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Colin L. Leitch, MDiv  
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Mary K. Scott, OD '68  
Robert Sekuler, PhD  
Irwin M. Shwom, OD '80  
Richard N. Small, CPA  
Philip Sutherland, OD '86, *President, Alumni Association*  
Erik Weissberg, OD '97, *Faculty Representative*  
Richard L. Wallingford, OD '75

## **Trustees Emeritus**

Joseph J.F. Bickford, OD '65  
Lester M. Brackley, OD '68  
G. Burt Holmes, OD '52, LHD  
Adelbert Parrot, OD '34 *deceased*  
Paul Taylor, OD '55

## The New England College of Optometry Corporators

Richard Angelone, CPA  
William R. Baldwin, OD, PhD, LHD  
Linda Bennett, OD '80  
Lester M. Brackley, OD '68, *Trustee Emeritus*  
Edward L. Burke, JD  
David J. Caban, OD '77  
Charles Clark  
Michael Cohn, OD '77  
Sylvio L. Dupuis, OD  
David W. Ferris, OD '66  
Elmer Freeman  
Philip E. Friedman, OD '62  
Elaine S. Garrett  
Carl F. Gruning, OD '66  
Donald Higgins, OD '82  
Celia Anne Hinrichs, OD '79  
Robert H. Honnors, OD '63  
Jia Qu, MD, LHD  
Barbara Kamens  
Cynthia P. Macdonald, JD  
Norman A. MacLeod  
David Mills, OD '80  
Joseph F. Molinari, OD, MEd '74  
Mark O'Donoghue, OD '82  
Joseph F. Osmanski, OD '74  
Gerard Phelan  
David A.V. Reynolds, DPH  
Fernando Hidalgo Santa Cruz, OD '87  
Ronald J. Serra, OD '70  
Thomas M. Sheehan, OD '64  
Solomon K. Slobins, OD '50  
John A. Stefanini, JD  
Irwin B. Suchoff, OD '59, DOS  
Michael Taylor, MEd  
Thomas F. Terry, OD '75  
William R. Tolford, OD '55  
Alison Bibbons Ward





## Acknowledgements

***The New England College of Optometry  
joins our graduates in thanking.....***

*families and friends for their unwavering support and  
encouragement;*

*the many members of the college community whose hard work  
and dedication helped to make this weekend possible.*

***We congratulate our alumni, Class of 1958, who are celebrating  
their 50<sup>th</sup> reunion year.***

***We are pleased to have the following special guests.....***

Mrs. David W. Ferris

Mr. Russell LaBreck

Steven M. Rothstein, *President, Perkins School for the Blind*

JudyAnn Bigby, MD, *Secretary of Health and Human Services,  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts*

Jean McGuire, PhD, *Assistant Secretary, Office of Disability  
Policy and Programs, Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts*

Harold and Mitzi Witkin, William Witkin, and Laura Speizman,  
*members of the Ned Witkin, OD '83, family*



# The Optometric Oath\*

With full deliberation I freely and solemnly pledge that:

I will practice the art and science of optometry faithfully and conscientiously, and to the fullest scope of my competence.

I will uphold and honorably promote by example and action the highest standard, ethics and ideals of my chosen profession and the honor of the degree, Doctor of Optometry, which has been granted me.

I will provide professional care for those who seek my services, with concern, with compassion and with due regard for their human rights and dignity.

I will place the treatment of those who seek my care above personal gain and strive to see that none shall lack proper care.

I will hold as privileged and inviolable all information entrusted to me in confidence by my patients.

I will advise my patients fully and honestly of all which may serve to restore, maintain or enhance their vision and general health.

I will strive continuously to broaden my knowledge and skills so that my patients may benefit from all new and efficacious means to enhance the care of human vision.

I will share information cordially and unselfishly with my fellow optometrists and other professionals for the benefit of patients and the advancement of human knowledge and welfare.

I will do my utmost to serve my community, my country and humankind as a citizen as well as an optometrist.

I hereby commit myself to be steadfast in the performance of this my solemn oath and obligation.

*\*Adopted by the American Optometric Association and by  
the Association of Schools and Colleges of Optometry*



